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to work up to the age of 60. In view of this, will the Government consider the desirability of making some provision for retirement benefits as in the case of the administrative staff?"

THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN :—" I will have the suggestion examined."

SRI M. NARAYANA KURUP :—" Sir, Rule 27 says: 'Nothing contained in these Rules shall adversely affect any person who was appointed as an Executive Officer before the 30th September 1951.' May I know whether this protection is available to the other staff who have been appointed in the Department?"

THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN :—" A separate question may be put."

SRI V. R. KRISHNA AYYAR :—" May I know whether the Government are giving any preference to candidates with legal qualifications in the matter of appointment as Executive Officers?"

THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN :—" Yes, Sir."

Government Transport Bus Service from Congress Exhibition grounds

* 2092 [a] Q.—SRI D. KRISHNAMURTHI GOUNDER : Will the Hon. the Minister for Religious Endowments and Transport be pleased to state—

(*a*) why a flat rate was collected from each passenger from Congress Exhibition grounds to other stops irrespective of distances in Government Transport special and regular buses; and

(*b*) whether it is a fact that passengers were not allowed to get in at the various stops though there was accommodation in the special and regular buses running through or from Congress Exhibition grounds?

THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN :—" (*a*) Sir, flat rates of fare were not collected in the Government Transport Buses from Congress Exhibition grounds to other stops irrespective of distances travelled. Flat rates of fare were however collected only for the special services operated from the Exhibition grounds to the various other destinations, viz., Parrys Corner, Mint, Mylapore, Triplicane, etc. Passengers travelling to intermediate stops were expected to utilise the regular services and not the special services. The special services followed the regular routes but they had to do 1·6 miles extra from the special bus stand to the nearest stage in the regular routes on account of having to cover the loop round the Exhibition grounds. For this additional mileage, an extra fare of half anna was charged. The fare thus charged is within the maximum limits prescribed in

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the rates notified by the Government under the powers conferred by Section 43 (1) (d) (ii) of the Motor Vehicles Act, 1939.

" (*b*) No Sir. There was no restriction to passengers getting in at intermediate stops, provided there was accommodation in the special and regular buses running through and from Congress Exhibition grounds. In fact passengers were allowed to enter special service buses at any stage in the route and to pay the ordinary fare as for regular services."

Sri M. NARAYANA KURUP :—" Sir, were these concessions intended to carry more passengers to the Exhibition grounds so that the Congress organisation, which was organising it, may have a greater share of the profits?"

The Hon. Sri B. PARAMESWARAN :—" This arrangement was made for the convenience of the travelling public."

Sri D. KRISHNAMURTHI GOUNDER :—" ரெகுலர் பஸ்ஸில் நானே பிரயாணம் செய்தேன். என்னிடத்திலேயே அதிகமான கட்டணம் வசூல் செய்துவிட்டார்கள். பஸ்களில் காலியிடங்கள் இருந்தும்கூட மத்தியில் ஆங்காங்கே நிற்கும் ஆட்களை ஏற்றவில்லை. இது பொதுமக்களை அதிகமாக பாதிக்காதா என்பதை சர்க்கார் கவனிப்பார்களா ?"

The Hon. Sri B. PARAMESWARAN :—" எட்டு மாதங்களுக்குப் பிறகு இந்தச் சிறிய சமாசாரத்தைப்பற்றி கனம் அங்கத்தினர் கேள்வி கேட்பது எனக்கு வருத்தத்தைத்தருகிறது. அப்பொழுதே இந்தத் தகவலை அவர் என்னிடம் தெரிவித்திருந்தால் அதைக் கவனித்திருப்பேன். சர்க்காருக்கு அந்த மாதிரித் தகவல் ஒன்றும் கிடைக்கவில்லை. கிடைத்திருந்தால், தக்க நடவடிக்கைகள் எடுத்திருப்போம்."

Sri D. KRISHNAMURTHI GOUNDER :—" அடுத்த காங்கிரஸ் மகாசபையின்போதாவது இந்த விஷயம் கவனிக்கப்படுமா ?"

The Hon. Sri B. PARAMESWARAN :—" அடுத்த காங்கிரஸ் மகாசபை அமிருதசரஸில் நடைபெறவிருக்கிறது. ஆதலால், அப்பேர்ப்பட்ட சந்தர்ப்பம் இங்கே வராது."

Harijan Day Celebration in Tindivanam

* 2099 [a] *Q.*—Sri M. VENUGOPALA GOUNDER : Will the Hon. the Minister for Religious Endowments and Transport be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether any Harijan Day meeting was arranged to be held on 31st October 1954 in Tindivanam, South Arcot district, by the concerned Government officers; and

(*b*) if so, which was the avenue of the meeting?

The Hon. Sri B. PARAMESWARAN :—" (*a*) No, Sir.

" (*b*) Does not arise."